

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 ACDE-00 SOE-02 AF-10
ARA-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 EA-10 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NASA-01 NEA-10 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OIC-02 SP-02
PA-01 DOE-15 SAS-02 CEQ-01 OES-09 SS-15 ICA-11
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C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 12838

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PARM, UR, US, CCD
SUBJECT: US-USSR CHEMICAL WEAPONS NEGOTIATIONS, ROUND
EIGHT: DRAFTING GROUP MEETING NO. 1

CW MESSAGE NO. 7

1. SUMMARY: FIRST DRAFTING GROUP MEETING OF ROUND EIGHT WAS HELD TUESDAY, AUGUST 22. USDEL ASKED FOR SOVIET RESPONSE TO SEVERAL QUESTIONS AND PROPOSALS PRESENTED BY THE US IN ROUND SEVEN. USDEL ALSO ELABORATED PROPOSAL ON EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION ON CHEMICAL PROTECTIVE ACTIVITIES FOR CONFIDENCE-BUILDING PURPOSES. SOVIET DEL PROMISED TO RESPOND LATER. END SUMMARY.
2. THE FIRST DRAFTING GROUP MEETING OF ROUND EIGHT WAS HELD TUESDAY AFTERNOON, AUGUST 22, 1978.
3. US TECHNICAL EXPERT (MIKULAK) REVIEWED US QUESTIONS AND PROPOSALS TO WHICH THE SOVIETS HAD NOT RESPONDED DURING THE PREVIOUS ROUND. HE SAID THE USDEL WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE SOVIET RESPONSES WITH RESPECT TO THE FOLLOWING:
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A. THE SPECIFIC CONTENT OF THE DECLARATIONS IN THE CONTEXT OF THE SOVIET PROPOSAL FOR DECLARATION OF CHEMICAL AGENT PRODUCTION "CAPABILITIES".

B. THE NUMERICAL CEILING PROPOSED BY THE US FOR STOCKS OF OTHERWISE PROHIBITED CHEMICALS WHICH MAY BE RETAINED FOR

PROTECTIVE PURPOSES.

C. THE US PROPOSAL CONCERNING THE CONTENT OF THE DECLARATION OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS STOCKS.

D. THE US PROPOSAL ON THE ARRANGEMENTS FOR CHALLENGE INSPECTION, INCLUDING THE RIGHTS AND FUNCTIONS OF BOTH PARTIES INVOLVED.

E. THE US PROPOSALS REGARDING RESTRICTIONS ON TRANSFER OF SUPER-TOXIC CHEMICALS.

F. THE PRECISE MEANING OF THE SOVIET APRIL 18 STATEMENT THAT THE QUESTION OF A BILATERAL CONFIDENTIAL EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION ON STOCKS OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS COULD BE EXAMINED LATER, IN CONNECTION WITH THE QUESTION OF RATIFICATION OF THE CONVENTION.

G. THE RESULTS OF THE SOVIET STUDY OF THE US PROPOSAL FOR DESTRUCTION OF DECLARED STOCKS AT SPECIALIZED FACILITIES. (A PROPOSAL MADE TO FACILITATE VERIFICATION OF THE DESTRUCTION OF STOCKS.)

4. US MILITARY EXPERT (BAY) MADE DETAILED PRESENTATION ELABORATING ON US PROPOSAL AT FIRST PLENARY MEETING FOR EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION ON CHEMICAL PROTECTIVE ACTIVITIES. CONFIDENTIAL

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PRESENTATION WAS DRAWN FROM PAPER ON THIS SUBJECT CONTAINED IN DELEGATION'S GUIDANCE FOR THE CURRENT ROUND. PRINCIPAL POINT WAS THAT EXCHANGE OF SUCH INFORMATION WOULD BE AN IMPORTANT CONFIDENCE-BUILDING MEASURE. BAY NOTED THAT BECAUSE CHEMICAL PROTECTIVE PROGRAMS COULD BE EITHER FOR OFFENSIVE OR DEFENSIVE PURPOSES IT IS ESPECIALLY DESIRABLE THAT AS MUCH INFORMATION AS POSSIBLE BE EXCHANGED AMONG PARTIES TO MINIMIZE THE RISK OF MISUNDERSTANDING.

5. SOVIET DEL HAD NO PREPARED STATEMENT OR QUESTIONS. SOVIET ALTERNATE DEL HEAD (NAZARKIN) PROMISED TO RESPOND TO US PROPOSALS AND QUESTIONS IN DUE TIME. HE SAID THAT DURING THE NEXT PLENARY MEETING THE SOVIET DEL WOULD TOUCH ON A NUMBER OF THE POINTS RAISED IN THE FIRST US STATEMENT (PARA 3 ABOVE). NAZARKIN ALSO INDICATED THAT SOVIET SIDE WOULD CAREFULLY STUDY THE US STATEMENT ON INFORMATION EXCHANGE.

6. NAZARKIN PROPOSED THAT THE WORK TO BE CONDUCTED IN THE DRAFTING GROUP BE DEFINED IN MORE SPECIFIC TERMS AT ONE OF THE NEXT PLENARY MEETINGS. US ALTERNATE DEL HEAD

(FLOWERREE) AGREED THAT THERE WAS A NEED TO BE MORE PRECISE ABOUT THE TOPICS TO BE DEALT WITH AT SPECIFIC DRAFTING GROUP MEETINGS, BUT EXPRESSED THE VIEW THAT DRAFTING GROUP MEETINGS SHOULD BE INFORMAL AND PERMIT MORE DETAILED DISCUSSIONS THAN AT PLENARIES.

7. IT WAS TENTATIVELY AGREED TO HOLD THE NEXT DRAFTING GROUP MEETING ON FRIDAY AFTERNOON, AUGUST 25. AT SOVIET REQUEST NEXT PLENARY MEETING HAS BEEN SET FOR WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON, AUGUST 23. VANDEN HEUVEL

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